

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
David J. Hillis, et al

Serial No.: 10/618,419

Confirmation No.: 7081

Filed: July 11, 2003

For: COLLAPSE RESISTANCE OF
TUBING



Group Art Unit: 3725

Examiner: Hung C. Le

Customer No. 36735

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 15 May, 2006.

William B. Patterson
Typed Name
34,102
Reg. No. if applicable


Signature
(713)623-4844
Telephone Number

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED FEBRUARY 14, 2006

In response to the Office Action dated February 14, 2006, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on May 14, 2006, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicants believe that no additional fees are due in connection with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/MRKS/0122/WBP, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. **Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.